

EXHIBIT A

Certification of Robert D. Gordon

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF PUERTO RICO**

In regarding:

THE FINANCIAL OVERSIGHT AND
MANAGEMENT BOARD FOR PUERTO
RICO,

as representative of

THE COMMONWEALTH OF PUERTO RICO,
et al.

Debtors.¹⁰

PROMESA

Title III

No. 17 BK 3283-LTS

(Jointly Administered)

**VERIFIED CERTIFICATION OF ROBERT D. GORDON IN SUPPORT
OF THE SIXTEENTH INTERIM APPLICATION OF JENNER & BLOCK
LLP FOR ALLOWANCE OF COMPENSATION FOR SERVICES
 RENDERED AND REIMBURSEMENT OF EXPENSES INCURRED AS
COUNSEL TO THE OFFICIAL COMMITTEE OF RETIRED
EMPLOYEES OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF PUERTO RICO
FROM JUNE 1, 2022 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2022**

I, Robert D. Gordon, have the responsibility for ensuring that the Application complies with the UST Guidelines, and I hereby certify the following:

1. I am a partner in the firm of Jenner & Block LLP (“Jenner”) and have been duly admitted to practice law in the States of Illinois, Michigan, and New York.

¹⁰ The Debtors in these jointly-administered PROMESA title III cases, along with each Debtor's respective title III case number listed as a bankruptcy case number due to software limitations and the last four (4) digits of each Debtor's federal tax identification number, as applicable, are: (i) Commonwealth of Puerto Rico (Bankruptcy Case No. 17 BK 3283-LTS) (Last Four Digits of Federal Tax ID: 3481); (ii) Puerto Rico Sales Tax Financing Corporation (Bankruptcy Case No. 17 BK 3284) (Last Four Digits of Federal Tax ID: 8474); (iii) Puerto Rico Highways and Transportation Authority (Bankruptcy Case No. 17 BK 3567-LTS) (Last Four Digits of Federal Tax ID: 3808); (iv) Employees Retirement System of the Government of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico (Bankruptcy Case No. 17 BK 3566-LTS) (Last Four Digits of Federal Tax ID: 9686); (v) Puerto Rico Electric and Power Authority (Bankruptcy Case No. 17 BK 4780) (Last Four Digits of Federal Tax ID: 3747); and (vi) Puerto Rico Public Buildings Authority (Bankruptcy Case No. 19 BK 5523-LTS) (Last Four Digits of Federal Tax ID: 3801).

2. I am the lead attorney from Jenner representing the Retiree Committee in connection with the above-captioned Title III Case. I am authorized to submit this certification in support of the *Sixteenth Application of Jenner & Block LLP for Allowance of Compensation for Services Rendered and Reimbursement of Expenses Incurred as Attorneys to the Official Committee of Retired Employees of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico from June 1, 2022 through September 30, 2022* (the “**Application**”). Except as otherwise noted, I have personal knowledge of the matters set forth herein.

3. I have read the Application. The statements contained in the Application are true and correct according to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief.

4. To the best of my knowledge, information, and belief, formed after reasonable inquiry, the fees and disbursements sought in the Application are permissible under the *Puerto Rico Oversight, Management, and Economic Stability Act* (“**PROMESA**”), 48 U.S.C. §§ 2101–2241; the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure (the “**Bankruptcy Rules**”); the Bankruptcy Rules for the United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of Puerto Rico (the “**Local Rules**”); the Court’s *Order Authorizing the Employment of Jenner & Block LLP as Attorneys for the Committee of Retired Employees* [Dkt. No. 1002]; the Court’s *Third Amended Order Setting Procedures for Interim and Final Compensation and Reimbursement of Expenses of Professionals* (the “**Compensation Order**”) [Dkt. No. 20546]; and the United States Trustee’s *Guidelines for Reviewing Applications for Compensation and Reimbursement of Expenses Filed Under 11 U.S.C. § 330 by Attorneys in Large Chapter 11 Cases Effective as of November 1, 2013*.

5. The fees and disbursements sought in the Application are billed at rates Jenner customarily employs and Jenner clients generally accept in matters of this nature.

6. None of the professionals seeking compensation varied their hourly rate based on their geographic location.

7. Jenner is not seeking compensation for this Interim Period specifically for time spent reviewing or revising time records or preparing, reviewing, or revising invoices.

8. Jenner does not make a profit on costs or expenses for which it seeks reimbursement, whether the service is performed by Jenner in-house or through a third party.

9. In accordance with Rule 2016(a) of the Bankruptcy Rules and 11 U.S.C. § 504, no agreement or understanding exists between Jenner and any other person for the sharing of compensation to be received in connection with the Title III Cases except as authorized by PROMESA, the Bankruptcy Rules, and the Local Rules.

10. All services for which compensation is sought were professional services rendered to the Retiree Committee and not on behalf of any other person.

11. The Retiree Committee was provided with a copy of the Application before it was filed with the Court and does not object to the relief requested therein.

12. On an annual basis, Jenner evaluates the hourly rates charged by its billing professionals to determine whether those rates should be increased based on a timekeeper's developing skills and experience, and consistent with changes in market hourly rates. In making this evaluation, Jenner obtains third party consultant information to assist it in determining an appropriate rate schedule for its billing professionals.

13. Consistent with its typical practice, Jenner raised its hourly rates on January 1, 2022. The 2022 rates charged by the billing professionals working on these Title III Cases were set through this process, and are consistent, in both amount and timing, with rates for Jenner

timekeepers not working on these Title III Cases. In addition, effective March 1, 2022, Jenner raised the hourly rate of Special Counsel Carl N. Wedoff.

14. In accordance with the *Order Imposing Additional Presumptive Standards: Rate Increases and the Retentions of Expert Witnesses or Other Sub-Retained Professionals* [Dkt. No. 7678] and as set forth in the *Notice of Jenner & Block LLP, Counsel to the Official Committee of Retired Employees of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, of Rate Increases Effective January 1, 2022* [Dkt. 19834] and *Notice of Jenner & Block LLP, Counsel to the Official Committee of Retired Employees of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, of Rate Increases Effective March 1, 2022* [Dkt. 20695], I certify that the Retiree Committee authorized the rate increase, both with respect to effective date and specific amount, on a timekeeper-by-timekeeper basis.

15. Jenner's 2021 and 2022 hourly rate schedules for associates are as follows:

CLASS YEAR	STANDARD RATE (\$)			
	2021			
CH	DC	LA	NY	
2021				
2020	560	560	560	575
2019	600	600	600	610
2018	660	660	660	680
2017	725	725	725	755
2016	775	775	775	815
2015	810	810	810	855
2014	845	845	845	880
2013	865	865	865	895
2012	865	865	865	895
2011	865	865	865	895
STANDARD RATE (\$)				
2022				
CH	DC	LA	NY	
635	635	635	645	
680	680	680	690	
750	750	750	770	
820	820	820	845	
880	880	880	915	
920	920	920	955	
945	945	945	975	
975	975	975	995	
975	975	975	995	
975	975	975	995	
975	975	975	995	

I certify under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief formed after reasonable inquiry.

Executed on November 18, 2022

/s/ Robert Gordon
Robert D. Gordon